

HOUSE BILL 873

L5

3lr1107

By: **Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's County Delegation**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2023
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Commissioner Qualifications and**
3 **General Manager Voting Powers**

4 **MC/PG 108–23**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring certain qualifications for a certain number of commissioners
6 of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; providing that the general
7 manager of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission has certain voting
8 powers; and generally relating to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Public Utilities
11 Section 17–102
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Public Utilities**

17 17–102.

18 (a) The Commission consists of:

19 (1) three commissioners from Prince George's County, appointed by the
20 County Executive subject to the confirmation of the County Council; and

21 (2) three commissioners from Montgomery County, appointed by the
22 County Executive subject to the confirmation of the County Council.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) (1) Each commissioner from Prince George's County shall be a resident of
2 the sanitary district.

3 (2) (i) Each commissioner from Montgomery County shall be a
4 registered voter of Montgomery County.

5 (ii) Each commissioner from Prince George's County shall be a
6 registered voter of Prince George's County.

7 **(3) AT LEAST ONE COMMISSIONER FROM EACH COUNTY SHALL HAVE**
8 **AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:**

9 **(I) 1. A MASTER'S DEGREE, A DOCTORAL DEGREE, OR AN**
10 **EQUIVALENT LEVEL OF EDUCATION DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2011**
11 **INTERNATIONAL STANDARD CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION; AND**

12 **2. AT LEAST 5 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE**
13 **MANAGEMENT OF A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT IS**
14 **COMPARABLE TO THE COMMISSION IN SCOPE AND COMPLEXITY;**

15 **(II) EDUCATION IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES; OR**

16 **(III) PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN UTILITY MANAGEMENT.**

17 (c) (1) An individual may not be appointed or continue in office as a
18 commissioner if the individual holds any other position of profit or trust under the
19 Constitution or laws of the State or any political subdivision of the State.

20 (2) Not more than two commissioners from Montgomery County may be of
21 the same political party.

22 (d) (1) The term of a commissioner is 4 years and begins on June 1 of the year
23 of appointment.

24 (2) The terms of commissioners are staggered as required by the terms
25 provided for commissioners on July 1, 1982.

26 (3) At the end of a term, a commissioner continues to serve until a successor
27 is appointed and takes the oath of office.

28 (4) A commissioner who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for
29 the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and takes the oath of office.

30 (5) A vacancy on the Commission does not impair the right of the
31 remaining commissioners to exercise all the powers of the Commission.

1 **(E) THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE COMMISSION HAS THE SAME VOTING**
2 **POWERS AS THE COMMISSIONERS ON ALL MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMISSION**
3 **EXCEPT REGARDING DECISIONS RELATING TO:**

4 **(1) THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OR THE SECRETARY; OR**

5 **(2) THE SALARY OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, THE INSPECTOR**
6 **GENERAL, OR THE SECRETARY.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2023.